

**STATUS OF CLAIMS**

Kindly enter the following claims, to read as indicated below:

1-12 (cancelled)

13) (currently amended) A method of protecting ocular neural tissue from damage caused by electromagnetic irradiation of the retina comprising delivering to a patient's ocular neural tissue an amount of an alpha 2 selective agonist having alpha 2B adrenergic activity effective to protect a plurality of ocular neurons from cell death as compared to ocular neuron cell death following such irradiation observed in the absence of the administration of said neuroprotectant.

14) (original) The method of claim 13 wherein said electromagnetic irradiation is laser irradiation.

15) (canceled)

16) (canceled)

17) (Original) The method of claim 13 wherein said alpha 2 selective agonist is selected from the group consisting of brimonidine, clonidine and para-aminoclonidine.

18) (Original) The method of claim 17 wherein said compound is brimonidine.

19) (Currently amended) The method of claim 13 wherein said alpha 2 selective adrenergic receptor agonist is an alpha 2B ~~and/or alpha 2C~~ selective agonist.

20) (Currently amended) The method of claim 19 wherein said alpha 2B ~~and/or alpha 2C~~ selective agonist is selected from the group consisting of AGN 960, AGN 795 and AGN 923.

21) (original) The method of claim 20 in which the alpha 2B selective agonist is AGN 960.

22) (original) The method of claim 20 in which the alpha 2B selective agonist is AGN 795.

23) (original) The method of claim 20 in which the alpha 2B selective agonist is AGN 923.

24) (previously presented) The method of claim 13 in which the alpha 2 selective agonist is administered at a time sufficiently before said electromagnetic irradiation to permit localization within ocular tissue prior to said treatment.

25) (previously presented) The method of claim 13 wherein said alpha 2 selective agonist is administered following said electromagnetic irradiation.

26) (New) The method of claim 13 wherein said compound is administered in an intraocular implant.

27) (New) The method of claim 18 wherein said compound is administered in an intraocular implant.